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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/673,897	01/05/2001	Bichot Guillaume	PF980020	7113

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VAN H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2194

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/673,897

Applicant(s)

GUILLAUME ET AL.

Examiner

VAN H. NGUYEN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the RCE filed on January 27, 2006. Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 27, 2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Zou (U.S. 6,160,796).

As to claim 1:

Zou teaches the invention as claimed including a method for the distributed management of a catalogue of objects (*e.g., software objects*) in a communication network (*e.g., the communication network*) comprising devices (*e.g., devices*) [see col.2, line 48-col.3, line 28], the method the steps of:

- registering (*e.g., registers*) local objects (*e.g., objects*) present in a device (*e.g., devices*) in a local registry (*e.g., local service registry 216*) managed at the level of this device [see the Service Registry discussion beginning at col.19, line 60];
- formulating, by a local object (*e.g., object*), a request (*e.g., querying*) for a list of objects (*e.g., a list of objects*), the request being transmitted to the single local registry of the device hosting the local object [see col.20, lines 1-42];
- propagating the request through the local registry to distant registries (*e.g., Each Service Registry 216 works with others to ensure that entries are replicated or available when required; col.20, lines 22-42*);
- collecting the responses to the request by the distant registries and the response of the local registry; and transmitting the responses collected to the local object having formulated the initial request (*e.g., Queries to the Service Registry 216 return object identifiers usable as end point for message communication. These identifiers may refer to DCMs, services, or any other entity in the system accessible*

via the messaging system. The format of the queries allows both sophisticated queries that iterate over the global registry or simple queries that are confined to a local registry; col.20, lines 36-42; see also the messaging 212 discussion, beginning at col.20, line 43).

As to claim 2:

Zou teaches a local registry (*e.g., service registry 216*) comprises for each object (*e.g., objects*) registered (*e.g., to register*) therein an identifier (*e.g., unique identifier*) of this object in the network, this identifier being unique (*e.g., unique*) for the network; as well as attributes (*e.g., attributes*) of the object [*col.20, lines 1-6*].

As to claim 3:

Zou teaches the identifier comprises an identifier (*e.g., identifier*) of the device in which the object is present, this device identifier being unique in the network (*e.g., uniquely identifies every device in the network*), as well as of a local identifier unique to this object at the level of the device [*see the device identification discussions, beginning at cols. 2, line 56; col.3, line 29; col.11, line 4; and col.22, line 7*].

As to claim 4:

Zou teaches a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising at least one selection criterion pertaining to an object attribute (*e.g., Attributes associated with an object may be static or dynamic... Attribute querying is carried out by specifying a set of*

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required attributes which then returns a list of objects that match the required attributes; col.20, lines 7-11).

As to claim 5:

Zou teaches the function of an object is an attribute stored by a local registry in respect of the object (*e.g., a mechanism to locate devices and services that are available in the HAV network. Since all devices and services are represented by objects, the Service Registry 216 allows any object to advertise itself. ... Any object wishing to locate a particular service or device object can do so by querying the Service Registry 216 for the appropriate DCM; col.19, line 61-col. 20, line 6).*

As to claim 6:

Zou teaches determining the devices connected to the network which themselves comprise a registry (*e.g., a mechanism to locate devices and services that are available in the HAV network. Since all devices and services are represented by objects, the Service Registry 216 allows any object to advertise itself; col.19, line 61-col. 20, line 6).*

As to claim 7:

Zou teaches determination of the types of the devices present in the network, the type of a device indicating whether it hosts a registry or whether it does not host one (*e.g., to allow one device to discover the capabilities of another device and to determine which command set to use with that device, a standard device description structure is provided*

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called the self describing data (SDD) structure...describing the device type) [see the discussion beginning at col.7, line 21].

As to claim 8:

Zou teaches a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising selection criteria for at least two lists of objects, as well as at least one operator for processing the lists (e.g., *Since all devices and services are represented by objects, the Service Registry 216 allows any object to advertise itself. Typically, resident on an FAV, the Service Registry 16 contains information on local service objects, remote service objects and local and remote devices. The Service Registry 216 operates by providing an API that allows objects to register their unique identifier, a name, and a set of attributes that define their characteristics including connection point information. Any object wishing to locate a particular service or device object can do so by querying the Service Registry 216 for the appropriate DCM; col.19, line 60-col.20, line 6).*

As to claim 9:

The rejection of claim 1 above is incorporated herein in full. Additionally, Zou further teaches means for storing (e.g., *computer memory*) [see the memory discussions, beginning at col. 5, line 29; col.8, line 15; col.19, line2; and col.24, line 5].

As to claim 10:

Zou teaches means for determining the addresses of devices of the network comprising so-called distant registries (*e.g., A bus can allow a certain maximum number of nodes (devices) to be connected and individually addressable at any given time. At any given time, the CMM 250 is informed of how many devices are currently attached and addressable; col.55, lines 32-44).*

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record on the P.T.O. 892 has not been relied upon and is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Careful consideration of the cited art is required prior to responding to this Office Action, see 37 C.F.R. 1.111(c).

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry or a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272 3765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM – 6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM THOMSON can be reached at (571) 272-3718.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for patents

P O Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Van H. Nguyen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "V" and "N".

Examiner Van H. Nguyen

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